



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/995,358	11/26/2001	Jules Zecchino	2870/566	2755

7590 03/31/2003

KAREN A. LOWNEY, ESQ.
ESTEE LAUDER COMPANIES
125 PINELAWN ROAD
MELVILLE, NY 11747

EXAMINER

FUBARA, BLESSING M.

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1615	11

DATE MAILED: 03/31/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/995,358	JULES ZECCHINO ET AL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Blessing M. Fubara	1615	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 18 March 2003 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

a) The period for reply expires ____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.

b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MP&P 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on 18 March 2003. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.

2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:

(a) they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);

(b) they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);

(c) they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or

(d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____

3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.

4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

5. The a) affidavit, b) exhibit, or c) request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.

6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.

7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: _____.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

8. The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner.

9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.

10. Other: _____

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Applicants argue that the "presence of an aqueous phase gelled by a polymeric sulfonic acid" is not taught in Wheeler or Collin. It may be noted that the claim 1 as written does not have a polymeric sulfonic acid and the phrase "gelled by a polymeric sulfonic acid" is directed to how the composition is prepared. In a composition claim, the prior art only has to teach the composition and not how the composition is made. The declaration by James T. Harrison concludes that the product prepared by the instant application has greater level of stability than those prepared by Wheeler. Greater level is a relative, which does not specifically conclude how much more stable the composition of the instant application is over the Wheeler composition. Also, the rejection on the basis of Wheeler and Collin is not on the stability of the composition of the prior art over the instant composition. The declaration of James T. Harrison did not address the rejection over Wheeler and Collin in view of the Clariant product brochure. The Collin reference is relied upon for a teaching of salicylic acid. Regarding the rejection over Wheeler and Collin in view of the Clariant product brochure, applicants argue that the Clariant brochure does not address the issue of low pH. The Wheeler reference teaches low pH and one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to substitute the polymeric sulfonic acid for the carbomers of Wheeler with the expectation that the polymeric sulfonic acid would act as gelling agents since the Clariant product brochure teaches that polymeric sulfonic acid gels or thickens emulsions and the declaration fails to show that the polymeric sulfonic acid would not work in the composition of Wheeler..



THURMAN K. PAGE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600